Amendments to the Claims

This listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (currently amended) Spherical particles of high density cobalt-manganese coprecipitated nickel hydroxide that are free of non-spherical particles of the same; wherein said cobalt-manganese coprecipitated nickel hydroxide is represented by the formula:

$$(Ni_{(1-x-y)}Co_xMn_y)(OH)_2$$

wherein $1/10 \leq x \leq 1/3$ and $1/20 \leq y \leq 1/3$; and

wherein said particles have ~~with~~ a tapping density of 1.5 g/cc or greater and a mean particle size in the range of 5-20 μm.

Claim 2-4. (canceled)

Claim 5. (new currently amended) Spherical particles of high density cobalt-manganese coprecipitated nickel hydroxide that are free of non-spherical particles of the same, wherein said particles have ~~with~~ a tapping density of 1.5 g/cc or greater and a mean particle size in the range of 5-20 μm, wherein said cobalt-manganese coprecipitated nickel hydroxide is represented by the formula:

$$(Ni_{(1-x-y)}Co_xMn_y)(OH)_2$$

wherein $1/10 \leq x \leq 1/3$ and $1/20 \leq y \leq 1/3$;

prepared by a process comprising the steps of:

continuously supplying an aqueous solution of a nickel salt which contains a cobalt salt and a manganese salt of a complexing agent and an alkali metal hydroxide into a reactor either in an inert gas atmosphere or in the presence of a reducing agent;

continuously growing crystals of said particles; and

continuously removing crystals of said particles from said reactor.

Claim 6. (previously presented) The spherical particles of claim 5, wherein said reducing agent is hydrazine.